

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed October 4, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered.

The Examiner's objection to the Specification has been noted and corrected by this amendment.

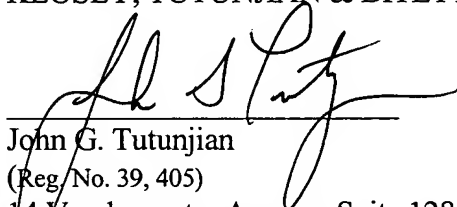
Claims 9-12 and 14-18 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended. New Claims 24-34 have been added. Claims 1-8, 13, and 19-34 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-23 stand rejected under 35 USC §101 for statutory double patenting in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,280,327 to applicant. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 and has added new claims 24-34 to the application. Both independent claims 1 and 24 do not claim the same subject matter as that of independent claim 8 in U.S. Patent No. 8280,327, and therefore overcomes this rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the claims set forth in the Office Action of October 4, 2004 be withdrawn, that pending claims 1-8, 13, and 19-34 be allowed, and that the case proceed to early issuance of Letters Patent in due course.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 50-1433.

Respectfully submitted,
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